



Learning and friendship go hand in hand

Ringway Primary
Guidepost
Choppington
Northumberland
NE62 5YP

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Mrs H E Scott
Headteacher

15th February 2019

Dear Parents,

Thank you for returning your questionnaires. As you know the questionnaire is optional and has to have a purpose. The purpose of this was to see how or where we can/could move Ringway forward.

I have looked at your comments and below have addressed many of your concerns and queries. If however there was something that you wished to discuss further then please do not hesitate to contact school and make an appointment.

Firstly regarding the school building:

- **INDOORS** – I have asked for quotes to have the school painted, especially down each of the corridors and the plan is to hopefully have it looking good by Easter. The hall could possibly be painted during the summer holidays as a lot of work has gone into the displays.
- **OUTDOORS** – I totally agree that the grounds, paving stones etc look shabby and need a make-over.
- Our gardeners will tidy up the bushes, hedges, grass etc on their next visit as this is part of their contract.
- I have already requested for the willows to be cut down and weaved again and this will hopefully happen within the next few weeks.
- I have suggested that Mr Page keeps the doorways clear of leaves and twigs.
- Over the next few weeks a small fence will be put up outside the Nursery, complete with stones and gravel along the bottom to try and stop the mud spilling into the yard.
- The fence at the front of the school will also be painted within the next few weeks.
- The fences at the rear of the school will be painted during the Easter holidays.
- **TRAFFIC** – To date, the parking does not appear to be a daily issue however we have been advised of one parent who parked in front of the school and were given a fine. The speed of traffic coming down the road has also become a concern. So far,



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we have had no complaints from parents or neighbours regarding the one way system.

- **SCHOOL MEALS** – This appears to be quite a concern for some parents and pupils. Two points have been raised, firstly the selection of meals and secondly the size of the portions for the older children. In response to the first one – Northumberland County Council devise the menu which is sent to Live Kitchen. At the beginning of each term we sit with Miss Jewitt and go through the menu. The menu is created based on what the children like and will actually eat. I have passed on that the ‘roast of the day’ does not always have to be chicken. With regards to the portion size our Parent Governor Mrs Munley has spoken to Mrs Arnott from County Hall and has passed on your concerns. We are hoping that this matter can be addressed quickly.
- **HEALTHY EATING** – We are looking at ways to improve our healthy options in school. All children have water available to them throughout the day. We would appreciate it if water bottles were not filled with juice. Reception and Key Stage 1 children are given a healthy snack every day. Snacks for breakfast club, after school club and break time snacks will be altered over time and healthy options provided.
- **COMMUNICATION** – We take on board what some of you have said regarding the over use of text messages. We will now only use it as a last resort to inform you of any sudden, quick changes to the day or week.
We do try to put as many dates and times on the newsletter and the majority of parents read them however sometimes letters are left in children’s book bags for several days or weeks after they have been given out. Therefore to ensure that we have consent for children to attend trips etc we use the text system to contact individual parents.
- **VOLUNTARY DONATIONS** – Voluntary donations always bring about a huge debate. We have to rely on these contributions to support the costs involved in transport and entrance fees to venues. We would like every child to have an opportunity to take part in trips and events frequently. Please refer to the charging policy which can be found on the school website.

I appreciate your comments regarding the additional space we require to extend our curriculum in Science, Art and Cookery however it was decided by County when moving from a First to a Primary school that we would not be given any extra space. We try and work best with the space that we have and are constantly looking at ways of redesigning our curriculum.



REWARDS - We acknowledge your comments regarding the reward system in school. Each class has their own reward system which we will be reviewing over the next few weeks. In addition to classroom rewards all children are given house points which are collated at the end of each half term. The winning house is given a non-uniform day. Every class teacher chooses a 'Star of the Week' and they are presented with a certificate in assembly. We also give 3 children from each class a sticker in assembly for their effort throughout the week. We have recently introduced attendance certificates which are given to children who have achieved 98% attendance or above. Athletics certificates are also given out when a child receives a Bronze, Silver or Gold award.

On a final note can I remind certain parents that 'vaping' 'dogs on site' or swearing are not allowed.

Once again can I thank you for your continuous support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs H Scott

Headteacher

